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UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 STATE 003640

SENSITIVE
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E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [AFMR](#) [ASEC](#) [CASC](#) [KFLO](#) [MARR](#) [PREL](#) [PINR](#) [AMGT](#) [HA](#)
SUBJECT: TFHA01: HAITI EARTHQUAKE TASK FORCE SITUATION
REPORT NO. 2

STATE 00003640 001.2 OF 002

EMBASSY STATUS, CASUALTIES, RESPONSE

¶1. (SBU) Embassy Port-au-Prince (PaP) confirms planes departed overnight and anticipates planes will be able to land. The embassy is investigating to confirm the tarmac is operational. Brazilian and Chilean military aircraft are expected to land January 13 in PaP to provide relief supplies to MINUSTAH. (TF1/Embassy Port-au-Prince telcon)

¶2. (SBU) Eight embassy employees have been injured; four seriously and are in need of medevac. Two American employees remain unaccounted for and Post is still attempting to account for all locally employed staff. Embassy housing is badly damaged. Embassy medical supplies are exhausted and in need of restocking. (TF1/Embassy Port-au-Prince telcon)

¶3. (SBU) The embassy is drawing up a list of approximately 80 non-emergency personnel and family members for ordered departure.
(TF1/Embassy Port-au-Prince telcon)

AMERICAN CITIZEN WELFARE

¶4. (SBU) A seriously injured U.S. citizen appeared at the

embassy gates; a local physician was assisting. The U.S. citizen was reportedly crushed in a building collapse and it is likely his wife and several other U.S. citizens are trapped inside. The major shopping center frequented by westerners collapsed, and it is likely U.S. citizens were injured or killed. Approximately 40 U.S. citizens were staying in the Carib Hotel, which was damaged. Roads in Port-Au-Prince are largely impassable. (TF1/Embassy Port-au-Prince telcon)

¶15. (SBU) The Consular Call Center has handled 649 calls, and Task Force 2 and Post have logged 418 calls in the Crisis Task Force software application. Wait time is currently 30 minutes for callers to the call center. Post has issued a warden message advising the U.S. citizen community of conditions in Haiti. The Department has cleared a Travel Alert for dissemination. SOUTHCOM is working with post to evaluate critically injured official and private U.S. citizens. (TF1/TF2/Consular Call Center e-mails)

HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE IN QUEUE

¶16. (SBU) The Port-au-Prince Chief of Police reported to SOUTHCOM, and American Airlines confirmed, the tower at the PaP airport collapsed. SOUTHCOM will insert an airfield team with a portable Air Traffic Control package as soon as possible. PaP airfield is expected to be operational within the next 24 hours. (TF1/American Airlines e-mail, TF1/SOUTHCOM telcon)

¶17. (SBU) OFDA's Disaster Assistance Response Team insertion and other foreign assistance is dependent on getting the airport functioning. If the airport is not available within 48 hours, OFDA plans to land in the Dominican Republic and cross over land. (TF1/OFDA telcon)

¶18. (U) The international Red Cross and other aid groups say they are preparing a major disaster relief effort in Haiti. ICRC spokesman Simon Schorno said the Haitian Red Cross staff are overwhelmed. He said there is "very little information about the scale of the disaster." Britain, France, Mexico, Venezuela, and Taiwan have pledged to send aid teams. (AP)

INFRASTRUCTURE SEVERELY AFFECTED

¶19. (SBU) Aftershocks were still severe early January 13. A team traveled out to the airport; roads remained crowded with people but are usable. Communications still remain poor. Post estimates there are 45,000 U.S. citizens in Haiti as a result of dual citizenship. (TF1/DCHA/AA e-mail)

¶10. (SBU) Post anticipates significant food shortages and looting in the affected areas. All hospitals in the greater PaP vicinity are full. (TF1/Embassy Port-au-Prince telcon)

¶11. (U) Additional updates are available through our Intellipedia portal on the classified system at:
http://www.intelink.sgov.gov/wiki/Portal:Cris_is_Haiti.
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